

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

In this amendment, the specification is being amended to correct an erroneous reference to a prior application. Specifically, in the original specification, reference was made to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/437,545 whereas the correct prior related patent application is U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/437,535.

As this preliminary amendment to modify the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. §120 is being submitted within four months of the filing date of the application, no fee or petition is believed to be due (see 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2) and (a)(5)).

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

FOR THE APPLICANTS
Respectfully submitted,


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